1321 Dandridge Street
Fredericksburg, Va. 22401
July 18, 1970

Dear Mom and Dad,

We got the slides a couple of days ago and will probably look at them tonight. Your letter came today with the article and picture. I am enclosing a snapshot from Vickie's camera and will send more in about a week. Also, we now have sufficient money so that we are returning $1000. to you. The government is reimbursing us for the moving - including the extra expense of the the temporary storage.

Today we bought Virginia license plates for the car. It costs 20 dollars for the state and the city charges an additional 10 dollars. There are a lot of tayes here and makes my takehome pay a lot smaller than the gross. Still, it is plenty for us to live on. We are lucky that we don't have to be close to D.C. since our rent would then be about $350 per month for a house like ours. I also bought a power lawn mower for $32 at the drugstore and just got finished putting on the handle and wheels. Tomorrow I will mow the grass - probably in the evening since it has gotten quite warm again. Thursday it wasn't so hot and the sky was very blue. It reminded us of the Northwest since most of the time here it is hazy due mainly to all the moisture in the air.

This morning we slept a whole two extra hours - until 7:30. It is nice getting up, though, since it gives you the entire day to get things done. We cleaned house a bit and put up some shades in "Vickie's room" which is her extra room for sewing and studying. In my room I have all my books and some extra clothes. It is certainly nice having three bedrooms and I think we will always need them.

It seems to be impossible to find a place to stay on the ocean over Labor Day, so we will probably go inland and just spend three days at some nice motel with a pool. I understand that after school starts it is a lot cheaper and much less crowded at the ocean. As you know, there aren't any cheap motels along the Atlantic Coast.

It is nice that Dad gets to study the computer. It is something I could enjoy doing all the time. In fact, I have been learning how to use the local system so that I can run a few programs. Our teletype is connected by telephone to several computers in the D.C. area and all one does is call the number of the one you want to use and then lay the phone receiver on a device which couples it to the teletype. Because there are several competing systems, the rates are not too expensive here so one can use the computer freely. Well, I want to write a couple of more letters today, so I will say goodbye for now.